



Clean Air Congress VOICE

JULY 2004

Clean Air Congress Hosts Community Events

Clean Air Congress recently hosted Clean Air Fiesta events at Gigante USA stores in Anaheim and Arleta. At AQMD's Diamond Bar headquarters, CBS2 traffic reporter, Vera Jimenez and reporter Jennifer Sabih were on hand

to co-host a carnival. These fun-filled events focused on ways we can protect ourselves from the harmful effects of air pollution and how we can all pitch in to help clean the air that we breathe. There were free health screenings, Clean

Air Choice vehicle displays, interactive experiments, face painting, clean air coloring contests, music and refreshments.

The Clean Air Congress program provides an opportunity for concerned residents to learn about new "clean air" technologies, what is being done to clean the air in Southern California and to voice their concerns to their legislators about air pollution's impact on our health.

For information on upcoming events, visit the AQMD web site at www.aqmd.gov/ej/meetings_workshops.htm or call Debra Reed at (909) 396-3199.



AQMD to Host Hydrogen Conference

The South Coast Air Quality Management District will host a two-day conference next month on "Hydrogen—Fueling the Clean Air Future," at the J.W. Marriot Desert Springs Resort and Spa in Palm Desert on August 16 and 17, 2004.

An internationally renowned group of speakers will discuss the benefits, challenges, and future role of hydrogen as a fuel for vehicles and stationary equipment.

The conference's Palm Desert location will allow attendees to tour nearby public and commercial hydrogen facilities; visit a range of exhibits; and ride and drive in new clean vehicle models.

For more information, contact Larry Kolczak at (909) 396-3215.



Community Participation Makes Mow Down Air Pollution 2004 a Success

AQMD'S 2004 lawn mower exchange campaign will come to a successful close on July 24. "Mow Down Air Pollution" offers local residents the opportunity to purchase a \$399 Neutron™ 24 volt electric rechargeable lawn mower for only \$100 after they turn in their used gasoline powered mower. The program involved five events held throughout the region between May and July. In all, 4,000 gasoline powered lawn mowers will be exchanged for electric powered mowers and then scrapped to prevent them from returning to service.

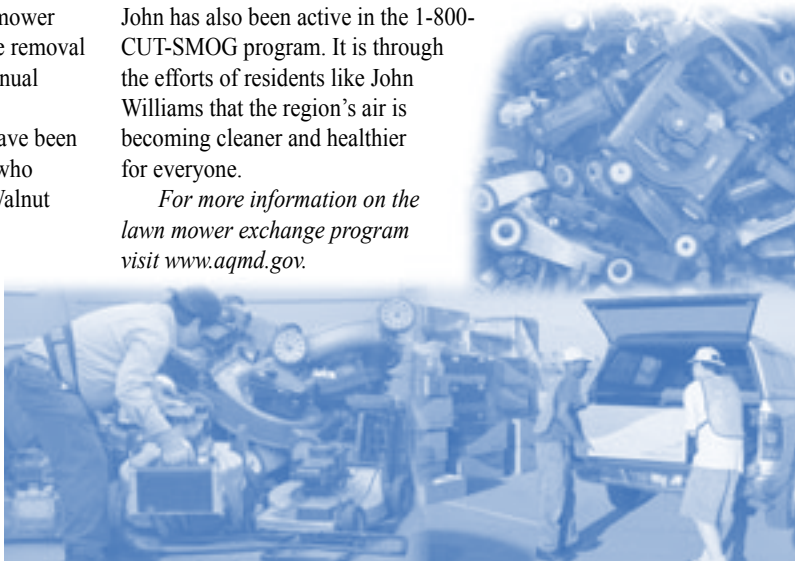
The program was created in response to the large amount of pollutants produced by older model gasoline powered lawn mowers. During an equal amount of operation, an older gas powered mower produces as much air pollution as four recent model cars. The removal of these mowers from operation is expected to result in an annual reduction of nearly 20 tons of air pollutants.

The 2004 Mow Down Air Pollution program could not have been successful without the active participation of local residents who are committed to improving air quality. One such person is Walnut resident, John Williams.

John not only traded in his old gas powered lawn mower, he recently sold his old pick-up truck to buy a 2004 Toyota Prius, a Clean Air Choice qualified vehicle. John often talks about how important it is to make environmentally friendly decisions. "We are breathing this air, so we can't be filling it with harmful chemicals," John stated. He also believes in the need to make others aware of air quality problems. "It isn't enough to just do your own part. We need to encourage others to make safe choices too. After all, air pollution doesn't just affect the polluters. It affects everyone," he said.

In addition to participating in the lawn mower exchange program, John has also been active in the 1-800-CUT-SMOG program. It is through the efforts of residents like John Williams that the region's air is becoming cleaner and healthier for everyone.

For more information on the lawn mower exchange program visit www.aqmd.gov.



Free Summer Concerts on Santa Monica Pier

You are invited to join AQMD on Thursday evenings for the 20th annual Twilight Dance Series on the world-famous Santa Monica Pier. AQMD is featuring its Clean Air Choice campaign to help educate consumers on the lowest-emitting vehicles available for purchase in California. The concerts start at 7:30 p.m. and are scheduled as follows:

- **July 1** – Fishbone and the Bonedaddys
- **July 8** – Wailing Souls and Ras Michael
- **July 15** – The Young Dubliners and Venice
- **July 22** – Les Yeux Noirs and Quetzal
- **July 29** – Excentric, Sound System and Delta Nove
- **August 5** – Richie Havens and Janis Ian
- **August 12** – Latin Alternative Music Conference featuring Andrea Echeverri and Ely Guerra
- **August 19** – Billy Vera & The Beaters and Thee Midniters, with Little Willy G.
- **August 26** – Blackalicious and Benny Cassette
- **September 2** – Clarence Clemons' Temple of Soul and Gravity

For more information, contact Sam Atwood at (909) 396-3456.

Foothill Neighborhood Environmental Justice Council Established

A community council has been formed in the San Gabriel Valley Foothill region to address the area's air quality concerns.

The Foothill Neighborhood Environmental Justice Council (NEJC) will include concerned residents, local elected officials, health related organizations and businesses. The Foothill NEJC is open to all local residents who would like to participate. Meetings will be held to make recommendations and propose future actions that would serve to improve air

quality in the North San Gabriel Valley.

"As part of our Environmental Justice Workplan for 2002-2003, we developed a pilot Neighborhood Environmental Justice Council program," said Oscar Abarca, AQMD's assistant deputy executive officer of Public Affairs. "NEJCs have been well received and are designed to bring community members together, working with the AQMD, to help solve air quality problems that affect their lives."

For more information, contact Pom Pom Ganguli at (909) 396-3185.



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VOICE

This news publication is produced by the South Coast Air Quality Management District's (AQMD) Public Affairs Office. AQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties. AQMD does not endorse or warrant any products, services or companies mentioned in this publication.

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